



SERMON NOTES

February 17, 2013

Scripture: Genesis 12:10-13:4 (NAS)

Topic: "Failures of the Man of Faith"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

Genesis 12:10-20

- 10 Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land.
- 11 It came about when he came near to Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, "See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman;
- 12 and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife'; and they will kill me, but they will let you live.
- 13 "Please say that you are my sister so that it may go well with me because of you, and that I may live on account of you."
- 14 It came about when Abram came into Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful.
- 15 Pharaoh's officials saw her and praised her to Pharaoh; and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.
- 16 Therefore he treated Abram well for her sake; and gave him sheep and oxen and donkeys and male and female servants and female donkeys and camels.
- 17 But the LORD struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife.
- 18 Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?"
- 19 "Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her and go."
- 20 Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they escorted him away, with his wife and all that belonged to him.

Genesis 13:1-4

- 1 So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, he and his wife and all that belonged to him, and Lot with him.
- 2 Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold.
- 3 He went on his journeys from the Negev as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai,
- 4 to the place of the altar which he had made there formerly; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

I. THE MAN OF FAITH IN SCRIPTURE

A. He Is Not A Fairy Tale Figure *II Corinthians 12:9*

B. His Flawed Reality Is Depicted

II. ABRAM, OUR EXAMPLE

A. He Started Strong In Obedience

B. Then He Began To Act On His Own

1. Dealing with the famine
2. Dealing with the fear of man

III. PARALLELS BETWEEN ABRAM AND NATION OF ISRAEL

A. Famine Lead Them To Egypt

B. Fear Of Death By Hand Of Pharaoh For Males

C. God Sent Plagues On Pharaoh's Household

D. The People Carried Wealth Of Egypt Out With Them

IV. THE DANGER OF TRIALS

A. Acting On Our Own

B. Exposed To Temptation

C. The enemy Is Active *I Peter 5:8; Isaiah 31:1*

V. HUMAN WEAKNESS

A. Abram Looked To His Own Wisdom

B. Abram's Scheming And Deception *Genesis 20:12*

C. Sarai's Decision To Comply *I Peter 3:1-6; Acts 4:19*

VI. GOD'S ACTION

A. He Sent A Plague To Protect

B. He Sent Abram Back To The Promised Land With Riches

C. He Did Not Give Abram What He Deserved But Grace

D. God's Grace Never Justifies Our Sin *Romans 6:1; 15*